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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/698,750	10/31/2003	John A. Devos	200310702-1	3212
22879 7590 09/04/2009 HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY Intellectual Property Administration 3404 E. Harmony Road Mail Stop 35 FORT COLLINS, CO 80528			EXAMINER ABDULSELAM, ABBAS I	
			ART UNIT 2629	PAPER NUMBER
			NOTIFICATION DATE 09/04/2009	DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

JERRY.SHORMA@HP.COM
ipa.mail@hp.com
jessica.l.fusek@hp.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/698,750

Applicant(s)

DEVOS ET AL.

Examiner

ABBAS I. ABDULSELAM

Art Unit

2629

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 5/22/09.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-60 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5-15, 17-20, 22, 23, 25-28, 33, 34, 36-43 and 50-60 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-4, 16, 21, 24, 29-32, 35 and 44-49 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. In view of the appeal brief filed on 05/22/09, PROSECUTION IS HEREBY REOPENED, as set forth below.

To avoid abandonment of the application, appellant must exercise one of the following two options:

(1) file a reply under 37 CFR 1.111 (if this Office action is non-final) or a reply under 37 CFR 1.113 (if this Office action is final); or,

(2) request reinstatement of the appeal.

If reinstatement of the appeal is requested, such request must be accompanied by a supplemental appeal brief, but no new amendments, affidavits (37 CFR 1.130, 1.131 or 1.132) or other evidence are permitted. See 37 CFR 1.193(b)(2).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1,5-15,17-20,22,23,25-28,33,34,36-43 and 50-60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ogino et al (USPN 6791513) in view of McLaughlin (USPN 6989800).

Regarding claims 1, 11, 15, 20, 25-28 33-34, 38, 43, 50-52 and 58-59, Ogino et al (USPN 6791513) teaches a display comprising (*Fig. 1 (100), display apparatus*): a plurality of display modules to form the display (*Fig. 1 (101) display units 101*), each display module

comprising: at least one user-viewable display element (102) disposed in the display module, each of a plurality of pixels of the display corresponding to at least one of the display elements (col. 5, lines 52-58, assuming that one display unit 101 has 256 units of display element 102 as shown in FIG. 4A, any image can be displayed on a screen with 256 dots (pixels) in one display unit 101); at least one connector (106) disposed in the display module to at least one of receive power from and provide power to a first adjacent display module; and, at least one receptor (106) disposed in the display module and receptive to a connector of a second adjacent display module (Fig. 1(101, 200), Fig. 2 (106), col. 4, lines 49-55, as shown in Fig. 2, four units of power transmitting section 106 are arranged, when a plurality of display units 101 are connected to each other, at the central positions of the upper side, lower side, left side, and right side of the display unit 101 respectively, so that the power transmitting sections 106 of any display units 101 adjacent to each other are electrically connected to each other, note that when a power transmitting section 106 of any one of the display units 101 is connected to the external power supply unit 200 (Refer to FIG. 1), power is supplied to any other display units 101 through the display unit 101 connected to the external power supply unit 200).

While Ogino teaches a plurality of display units 101 which are connected to each other as shown in Fig. 1,

Ogino does not specifically teach that the display units are interlockable.

McLaughlin on the other hand teaches as shown in Fig. 9 two view of two display assemblies 11, the left hand assembly in the process of being rotated about its vertical axis into a locked position, and illustrates FIG. 10, which is a view as in FIG. 9 (after the left hand display assembly has been rotated into a fully locked position, and after the locking screw in the right

hand display assembly has been secured into a threaded hole in the top plate flange of the left hand display assembly).

Hence, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine Ogino's connection of display units 101 shown in Fig. 1 with McLaughlin's locking mechanism of display assemblies as demonstrated in Fig. 9-10, the use of which helps an individual display panel to be removed or replaced without disturbing the mounting or alignment of adjacent display panels as taught by McLaughlin.

Regarding claims 5-7, 17, 22-23, 36, 39-42, 53-57 and 60, Ogino teaches display information is communicated to each of the plurality of display modules, each display module determining which of the display information the at least one display element of the display module is to display (*Fig. 1 (300), col. 4, lines 11-19, col. 9, lines 18-34, Fig. 2 (103), col. 4, lines 20-35*).

Regarding claims 8-10 and 18-19, Ogino teaches each display module is solar powered (*col. 4, lines 9-11, variation of power supply is well known*).

Regarding claims 12-14 and 37, Ogino teaches each display module is rectangular in shape (*Fig. 1 (101), fig. 12 (101), variation is obvious design choice*).

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 2-4, 16, 21, 24, 29-32, 35 and 44-49 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ABBAS I. ABDULSELAM whose telephone number is (571)272-7685. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 9:00A.M. to 5:30 P.M. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Amare Mengistu, can be reached on 571-272-7674. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Abbas I Abdulselam/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2629

August 29, 2009